



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Minnesota Ag News – Honey



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Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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Honey production from producers with 5 or more colonies in Minnesota totaled 7.54 million pounds in 2013 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service *Honey Report*. This was a 10 percent decrease from the 8.38 million pounds produced in 2012. The number of honey producing colonies in the state rose from 125,000 colonies last year to 130,000 colonies in 2013. This number does not include producers with fewer than 5 colonies or producers who did not harvest honey. Colonies that produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state where they produced honey. Yield per colony in Minnesota averaged 58 pounds, down from 67 pounds per colony in 2012. Minnesota moved to sixth place nationally in honey production, down from fifth place last year.

On December 15, 2013, producer honey stocks in Minnesota, excluding stocks under government loan programs, were 1.28 million pounds, a 19 percent decrease from 2012. The state's 2013 honey crop was valued at \$14.9 million, down 8 percent from the previous year's \$16.1 million. The average price per pound for all marketing channels in Minnesota was \$1.97, up 5 cents from 2012.

Honey, Selected States and United States, 2012 & 2013

Crop	Producing Colonies ¹		Yield		Production		Honey Stocks Dec. 15 ²		Average Price per Pound		Value of Production	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
	1,000	1,000	pounds	pounds	1,000 lbs	1,000 lbs	1,000 lbs	1,000 lbs	Cents	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
California	330	330	35	33	11,550	10,890	3,119	2,505	194	210	22,407	22,869
Florida	193	220	64	61	12,352	13,420	1,235	1,074	184	204	22,728	27,377
Georgia	59	67	51	50	3,009	3,350	181	637	192	224	5,777	7,504
Idaho	92	83	32	32	2,944	2,656	530	1,036	163	201	4,799	5,339
Iowa	37	39	61	48	2,257	1,872	1,196	1,217	217	254	4,898	4,755
Louisiana	41	50	86	98	3,526	4,900	141	490	183	183	6,453	8,967
Michigan	73	85	57	55	4,161	4,675	1,332	982	203	213	8,447	9,958
Minnesota	125	130	67	58	8,375	7,540	1,591	1,282	192	197	16,080	14,854
Montana	145	159	52	94	7,540	14,946	2,413	5,231	195	208	14,703	31,088
New York	51	55	51	48	2,601	2,640	988	1,030	223	199	5,800	5,254
North Dakota	480	480	69	69	33,120	33,120	5,962	6,955	192	204	63,590	67,565
South Dakota	260	265	63	56	16,380	14,840	3,604	6,381	195	206	31,941	30,570
Texas	92	106	52	59	4,784	6,254	718	1,689	200	212	9,568	13,258
Wisconsin	60	59	69	60	4,140	3,540	1,863	1,558	205	231	8,487	8,177
United States	2,539	2,640	56.0	56.6	142,296	149,499	31,829	38,160	199.2	212.1	283,454	317,087

¹ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

² Stocks held by producers.

UNITED STATES BEE & HONEY

Honey production in 2013 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 149 million pounds, up 5 percent from 2012. There were 2.64 million colonies producing honey in 2013, up 4 percent from 2012. Yield per colony averaged 56.6 pounds, up 1 percent from the 56.0 pounds in 2012. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 38.2 million pounds on December 15, 2013, up 20 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Record High Honey Prices

Honey prices increased to a record high during 2013 to 212.1 cents per pound, up 6 percent from 199.2 cents per pound in 2012. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2012 crop reflect honey sold in 2012 and 2013. Some 2012 crop honey was sold in 2013, which caused some revisions to the 2012 crop prices.

The complete report can be found under **Publications** on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov.